

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Colonial Coin Collectors Club

*Vermont Ryder 25
U Reverse*



The Final State

Summer 2002

Volume 10 Number 2

An Unsurpassed Record of **AUCTION SUCCESS**



We invite you to become part of our spectacular 2000 auction season. When it comes time to sell, you deserve the best—Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc.. Whether your collection is worth several thousand dollars—or many multiples of that figure—we can help you realize the highest possible market price for your colonial coins.

We have handled some of the most famous of all colonial coin collections ever assembled, including the Garrett, Taylor, Norweb, and Saccone collections, to name just a few. Many great colonial rarities have crossed the auction block under our familiar banner. From Brasher doubloons to rare state coinage issues, from New England silver rarities to important Washington pieces, we have handled them all!

When you consign to Auctions by Bowers and Merena, you consign to the most successful rare coin auction firm in American numismatic history. Why not let our success be your success as well? Call our Auction Director, John Pack, or our Chairman of the Board, Q. David Bowers, toll-free at 1-800-458-4646 to consign your collection or important single colonial rarities to one of our upcoming sales. What we have successfully done for so many others, we can do for you! When great collections are sold, Bowers and Merena sells them.

AUCTIONS BY BOWERS AND MERENA, INC.

Box 1224 ♦ Wolfeboro, NH 03894 ♦ 800-458-4646 ♦ In NH: 569-5095 ♦ Fax: (603) 569-5319

www.bowersandmerena.com ♦ e-mail: auction@bowersandmerena.com

The C4 Newsletter Volume 10 Number 2
A quarterly publication of
The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

C4 National Officers:

President Ray Williams

njraywms@optonline.net

Vice-pres. James Rosen

Treasurer: Angel Pietri

apietri@ix.netcom.com

Secretary: Frank Steimle

Past-pres. Dennis Wierzba

WIERZBA@attbi.com

Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Angel Pietri at the address listed above. Dues are \$20-regular, \$10 for junior members (under 18), \$25-1st class mailing of newsletter, \$400 for Life Membership (or 4 quarterly payments of \$100).



Summer, 2002

C4 Newsletter Associate Editors:

Angel Pietri, Brian J. Danforth

*Articles, letters for publication, and ads should be sent to Angel
Pietri, Brian Danforth*

or to your Regional Vice President.

Librarian: Leo Shane

C4 Regional Vice Presidents:

Region 1 (New England, Quebec, Canadian Maritimes)

Jim Skalbe, Colonial Trading Co.

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PA, MD, DE, DC)

Dave Palmer

Region 3 (VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, TN, AR, PR)

Stan Stephens

sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu

Region 4 (OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, KY, IA, ND, SD, MN, KS, MO,

NE, Ontario, Manitoba)

Dan J. Freidus

Region 5 (OK, TX, NM, AZ, ID, WY, CO, MT, UT, NV, Mexico)

Marv Sauvain

Region 6 (CA, HI)

Jim Goudge

Region 7 (OR, WA, BC)

Rob Retz

Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	Copy size
1 page	\$50	\$75	\$125	4-1/2"x 7-1/2"
½ page	30	45	75	4-1/2"x 3-3/4"

If you want to include a photo with your ad at an additional \$10. Black and white photo needed, size can be adjusted to fit. Please send check with your ad. We can accept camera ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 13 lines.



Table of Contents

Message from the President	4
<i>Ray Williams</i>	
Election of Officers	5
Dues Notice	6
C4 Library News	
<i>Leo Shane</i>	6
C4 General Meeting at EAC	7
<i>Stan Stephens</i>	
C4 Convention	9
John Hull, The Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage	9
C4 Items for Sale	15
More on the Rhode Island Ship Token	16
<i>Michael Hodder</i>	
Dr. James Mease and Old American Coins	21
<i>Brian Danforth</i>	
The Vermont Ryder 25- The Final State	26
<i>Roy Bonjour</i>	
Unclassified Ads	28



President's Message

By Ray Williams

I was thinking how appropriate it is that I'm writing this during our July 4th Holiday! If it were not for the Declaration of Independence, there would not have been a Revolutionary War and the ensuing victory. Without the resulting Articles of Confederation, the states would not have struck coins. Without NJ Coppers having been made, I never would have met John Griffee, a true gentleman and scholar. His inspiration and encouragement resulted in my obsession with this hobby and subsequent friendships. On this July 4th, I am proud to be an American and proud to be associated with all of you!

I hope there will be a good turnout for the C4 meeting at the ANA Convention in NYC. It was 10 years ago at the ANA Convention in Florida, at a Pizza Hut, that the founding members discussed the concept of our club and decided to act. I hope that some of these members will be present at ANA to reminisce a little with us.

Colonial numismatic projects are moving forward. Lou Jordan's book about the Boston Mint is at the printer and as soon as it reaches the distributor, we'll put an order form on the C4 website (www.colonialcoins.org). Several other books are in various stages of progress and I hope to see three major works in print before the end of 2003.

Our corner of the hobby is active and thriving, as is C4. Planning for our Fall Convention in Boston is underway. If you have any last minute consignments for the auction, contact M&G or Tom Rinaldo ASAP. Why not pry loose a few of those no longer appreciated colonials so they have an opportunity to make another good home while providing you with a little more "coin money"?

As I close, my last thought is a lunch I had this week with Leo Shane and Syd Martin. We had a great time talking coins! I hope to make this a monthly event and open it to anyone in the area who can stop by for food and coins. As good as Diane is at understanding and appreciating my coins, there's nothing like getting together with other fanatics who have the same appreciation that you do. If you know of others in driving distance of you, take the initiative and organize an informal get together - you won't regret it!

Have Fun!



Election of C4 Officers in 2002

By the closeness of the vote, the election for Region 7 Regional Representative could be called a cliffhanger. Buell Ish pulled a very

Summer, 2002

narrow victory to become the new region representative.



Dues Notice

As usual for this time of year, it is time to start thinking of dues. Many of you have already sent yours, so check the address label for the number next to your name. If it says 02 or higher you are paid up for this year. If it says 01, you have to pay your dues between now and September. Only members who have not paid by September will receive individual dues notices. Thanks.



C4 Library News

By Leo J. Shane

I now have the library's photo file in some sort of order. We have an extensive collection of New Jersey photos, A moderate number of Connecticuts and Vermonts and a little of most other colonial series coins. Let me know what you are interested in and I'll give you an idea of what we have for loan.

Thank You to Jim Spilman and the Colonial Newsletter Foundation for donating copies of the following manuscripts. These are available for loan.

-The Annotated Hall by Edward R. Barnsley, A Colonial Newsletter Foundation Iterative Research Working Document, A Descriptive List of the Coppers Issued by Authority for the State of Connecticut for the year 1787 – Thomas Hall MD, Boston 1892

-The Annotated EAC Connecticut Sales of February 15, 1975 by Edward R. Barnsley, A Colonial Newsletter Foundation Iterative Research Working Document, An Analysis of the Connecticut Coppers Section of the EAC Society Convention Public Auction Sale- PineTree Auction Co, Inc., Herbert Melnick, Chairman

-Thompson, Samuel, An Essay on Coining by Samuel Thompson – Die Sinker 1783. NOTE: This is a handwritten document and is currently being transcribed with illustrations scanned by one of our members. It will be available electronically shortly.

And finally, thank you to E.F.Schwam and Dennis Weirzba for their donations to help fill out the collection of C4 Newsletter issues. At this time we only need the following issue to have a complete set.

Vol 5 No. 3 Fall 1997

Check your libraries for a duplicate copy. We are also looking for a second copy of the following:

Vol 5 No. 2 Summer 1997

Vol 6 No. 2 Summer 1998

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Think about what you collect and make your suggestions as to what you feel would be a good book to start with for other members.

Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. My E Mail is Leo.J.Shane@honeywell.com or write to me at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



C4 General Meeting at EAC Convention in Las Vegas

By Stan Stephens

C4 held a general meeting at 4:00 on Saturday April 20th in Las Vegas, Nevada during the annual EAC convention. The meeting was chaired by Ray Williams, current president of C4. The following members were in attendance: Ray Williams, John Griffee, Stan

Summer, 2002

Stephens, Rod Widok, George Wehrman, Mitch Mitchell, Frank McGrath, Dave Wnuck, Eric Li Cheung, Jim Goudge, Bijan Anvar, Craig McDonald, Clem Schettino, Jack Wadlington, John Kraljevich, Angel Pietri, Tom Rinaldo. If we missed anyone please speak up. Here is a brief description of what was talked about:

I asked Tom Rinaldo(who is now a NY'er) if the ANA convention was the hard deadline for consigning to the next C4 auction. Tom explained that consignments made before this date are guaranteed to be included in the auction. After ANA it will then be their decision. The spiral bindings will be used on the C4 Catalogs in the future. Updates were given about upcoming books on colonial topics. Syd Martin is almost ready with Woods coinage, Lou Jordan has the manuscript complete on The Boston Mint(see next story), and other works are in different stages of progress. Due to John Griffee's recent health problems which has cost him about 6 weeks of work it will not be possible to get the St. Patrick book published this year. We did manage to photograph 40 additional St. Patricks yesterday. Here are some C4 convention notes. Dennis is obtaining the meeting room for the entire Convention, so different groups will be able to obtain the room for side events and the C4 reception will be within the building and not at a public location.

There is a large group of colonials consigned to Heritage for the Central States Show in Columbus, OH.

There will be a C4 meeting at ANA, time yet to be announced.

Angel Pietri reported that the spring C4 journal is at the printers. This of course means that we can use some new material for the summer issue.

The bourse floor closed at 5:00 so we had to adjourn just when president Williams was just getting rolling.



C4 Convention

The next C4 convention is scheduled for November 14-17, 2002 in Boston at the Radisson Hotel. Consignments are still being accepted for the auction. Please contact Tom Rinaldo [REDACTED], Chris McCawley([REDACTED]) or Bob Grellman([REDACTED]) if you have coins to consign.



John Hull, The Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage

The book on John Hull and the Massachusetts Mint by Louis Jordan should be ready for release around the end of July. This is the most up to date and comprehensive analysis of the Mint operations, backed by extensive new research done by the writer. It is being published by C4 and distributed by University Press of New England.

For those interested in ordering a copy, order forms should be available at the ANA at some of the colonial dealers' tables. You can also order from:

Ellen Wicklum
University Press of New England
One Court Street
Suite 250
Lebanon, NH 03766
ellen.wicklum@dartmouth.edu
603-448-1533

Following is the Table of Contents, which gives an idea of the depth of the book contents.

Table of Contents

Editor's Foreword by Philip L. Mossman. xi

Introduction by Michael Hodder.	xiii
Preface	xv

Part One - John Hull and the Massachusetts Mint

Chapter 1 - The Hull and Sanderson Homesteads and the Location of the Massachusetts Mint 1

The family and homestead of Robert Hull	
John Hull is promised the homestead	
John Hull inherits the homestead	
The homestead at John Hull's death	
John Hull's Boston properties	
Hull's shop and its relationship to the mint	
Contemporary references to the mint house	
Citations to the mint house from 1652	
Citations to the minting facilities from the 1660's	
Robert Sanderson and his homestead	

Addendum - Massachusetts Bay Colonists Named

<u>John Hull</u>	18
John Hull of Dorchester	
John Hull of Newbury	

Chapter 2 - The Personal Ledger of John Hull and the Shop Account from 1671 to 1680

<u>Chapter 2 - The Personal Ledger of John Hull and the Shop Account from 1671 to 1680</u>	20
The personal ledger of John Hull	
The shop account	

Part Two - The Massachusetts Mint and British Politics

<u>Chapter 3 - The Massachusetts Mint and British Politics after the Restoration</u>	27
The 1652 backdating hypothesis	
Presuppositions	

- Post-Restoration relations with Massachusetts Bay: 1660-1666
- Renewed interest in Massachusetts Bay: the complaints of 1675-1677
- The pronouncements of 1677
- A reversal of fortune: 1678-1684
- From the abolition of the charter to Queen Anne's proclamation: 1684-1704
- British opposition to the mint in Massachusetts Bay: a summary

Part Three - The Economics of Massachusetts Silver Coinage

<u>Chapter 4 - Mint Charges in Massachusetts Bay</u>	46
The debate over mint fees in 1652	
Hull's application of the mint fees	
Later reductions of the mint fees	
A comparison of mint fees in Massachusetts and England	
<u>Chapter 5 - Coin Weight at the Massachusetts Mint</u>	54
Coin weight as expressed in the legislation of May 26/27, 1652	
The mint committee wastage allowance of June 20, 1652	
Production issues and the application of the wastage allowance	
Actual wastage and the average coin weight from the mint production records	
<u>Chapter 6 - The Relative Value of Massachusetts and British Silver Coinage</u>	64
Fineness and weight: the "new" sterling alloy and the two pence per shilling reduction mentioned in the 1652 Mint Act	
Sterling fineness, debasements and coin weight	
The "two pence" reduction in Massachusetts Bay	
The 22.5% and 25% differentials	

Part Four - Production Issues

Chapter 7 - Minting Procedures in Massachusetts Bay 74

- The London mint during the 1660's
- Consignment acceptance at the Massachusetts Mint
- Assaying silver in the seventeenth century
- Production issues in the Massachusetts Bay Mint Act: the shape of the coins and privy marks
- Processing consignments at Massachusetts Bay
- Minting coinage in 1652
- The acquisition of a coining press
- Modifications in production methods during the rocker press period
- Technological change at the Massachusetts Mint during the late 1660's

Chapter 8 - Consignments at the Massachusetts Bay Mint . . 95

- Interpreting the consignment evidence in Hull's ledger
- Mint consignments in Hull's ledger

Chapter 9 - Estimated Mint Productivity as Reflected in the Hull Ledger 102

- Productivity rates found in ledger entries: the consignment of January 1679
- Productivity rates found in ledger entries: the consignment of August 1680
- The number of days spent minting coins from October 1671 through September 1680
- Silver shortages at the Massachusetts Mint in the 1670's

Chapter 10 - Consignment Turnaround Time at the Massachusetts Bay Mint 118

- Lord Culpepper's complaint
- Turnaround time from the consignments in Hull's ledger
- Expediting larger consignments
- The turnaround time for orders during Lord Culpepper's stay in Boston

Chapter 11 - The Size of a Melt and its Relation to Production Runs at the Massachusetts Bay Mint	124
A sterling melt at the London mint in the 1660's	
The estimated size of a melt at the Massachusetts Bay Mint	
The disposition of odd lots	
Chapter 12 - John Hull and Robert Sanderson as Silversmiths and Coiners	128
Hull as an apprentice	
Hull and Sanderson as silversmiths	
Hull as a soldier, politician and entrepreneur	
Hull and Sanderson at the shop	
Apprentices and journeymen at the shop	
1652-1660	
1660-1665	
1665-1675	
1675-1683	
Chapter 13 - Other Individuals Mentioned in Connection with the Massachusetts Coining Operation	140
John Mansfield	
Joseph Jenks	
Part Five - The Eight Reales and its Value in Britain and Massachusetts Bay	
Chapter 14 - The Significance of the Eight Reales Cob Coinage in Massachusetts Bay	148
British restrictions on exporting silver and gold	
Spanish and Spanish American coinage in the seventeenth century	
Chapter 15 - The Intrinsic Value of the Spanish Real and the Eight Reales	151
The origin of the real	
The intrinsic value of Spanish and Spanish American eight reales	

Summer, 2002

in the seventeenth century

Chapter 16 - The Eight Reales in England 156

The sixteenth century

The Proclamation of May 14, 1612

The debasement debate of 1626

Lightweight eight reales in the southwestern counties, 1644

Rates for eight reales during the Commonwealth

The Restoration

Eight reales in Ireland

The recoinage of William III and the value of the eight reales
in England

Newton's assays

The exportation of silver and the use of the eight reales as a
bullion substitute in late seventeenth and eighteenth century
England

Chapter 17 - The Valuation of the Eight Reales and

the Price of Silver in Massachusetts Bay 167

The Massachusetts Bay tax rate of 1640

The crying-up of silver

The relative rates of Massachusetts and Spanish silver

Spanish silver is rated above Massachusetts silver

Spanish silver is reduced to parity with Massachusetts silver

The eight reales at 72d (6s)

The eight reales in Massachusetts following the Proclamation
of 1704

Spanish silver priced as a commodity in eighteenth century
Massachusetts

Appendix I: Transcription and Commentary

of the Shop Account, 1671-1680 179

Section one: 1671-1676

Section two: 1677-1678

Section three: 1679-1680

Addenda

**Appendix II: A Chronological Listing of Documents
and Events Relating to the Massachusetts Mint 217**

Figures	284
Bibliography of works cited	322
Index	332



C4 Items for Sale

The Copper Coins of Vermont
And Those Bearing The Vermont Name
by Tony Carlotto

Only 10 copies left!

Regular edition price \$50 (add \$3 for shipping)
Send orders to:

Ray Williams



C4 Convention Items for Sale

Hardbound Scott Barnes Catalogs \$50
Hardbound Fifth C4 Convention Catalogues \$50/ea.
Call or write Ray Williams if you are interested for availability.

Add \$3 postage and handling. All will be sent uninsured at buyer's risk. If you want insurance, add an appropriate amount. Please

Summer, 2002

forward your check to Ray, payable to C4.

The Richard Picker Collection Lot Envelopes

Stack's has provided C4 with Picker's own customized envelopes from his collection sold in October 1984. They are available from the club for \$5 each if you can show adequate proof that you own the coin. This \$5 donation is for the club's treasury, thanks to Stack's. All unsold envelopes will be returned to Stack's. If you own any of these coins and would like to own the envelope, contact Ray Williams.

The Fugio plates are sold out!



More on the Rhode Island Ship Token

By Mike Hodder

Recently, while I was working at the New York Historical Society in New York City, a curator showed me a manuscript letter she thought I might be interested in seeing. After I read it, and realized its importance, I asked if I might publish the letter, which was unknown to anyone outside the institution. She relayed my request and shortly thereafter was able to give permission for the letter's publication. I decided to send it to C4 since there have been other articles on the subject of Rhode Island Ship tokens in recent issues and I thought the membership might like to see this one.

I always thought Breen's (i.e., Bushnell's) explanation of the meaning of the token was clumsy. It seemed to me that fleeing Americans on one side and a British admiral's flagship at anchor on the other didn't convey a mixed message of any kind. Clearly, the iconography of the types proclaimed a British rout of colonial forces and a peaceful occupation of Rhode Island. Over the years, using various sources, I was able to show that the Rhode Island Ship token was considered a form of money and that there once were more than just one specimen with *vlugtende* on the obverse. I proposed, based
16

on numismatic and historical arguments, that the tokens were made in England in 1780 to be circulated in Holland as propaganda pieces designed to influence the Dutch against joining the Treaty of Armed Neutrality.

The letter that follows and is reproduced here seems to support my argument that these tokens were made to influence the Dutch in 1780. The letter was written at the Hague on February 8, 1853. It was sent to George H. Moore, librarian at the New York Historical Society, by George Folsom. George Henry Moore (1823-92) was the Society's librarian from 1849-76. He graduated from the University of the City of New York in 1842 and spent all of his professional life in the Society's library. Moore was an author of note who specialized in histories and bibliographies. George Folsom (1802-69) graduated from Harvard in 1822, was admitted to the Massachusetts bar two years later, and in 1841 edited the Collections of the New York Historical Society. He was a prodigious author of histories. He died in Rome. At the time of this letter, he was United States Charge -d'Affaires to the Netherlands.

The letter reads as follows. A small chip out of the top makes the reading of part of one line doubtful and this is so indicated.

The Hague, 8 Feby.

1853

Dear Sir:

I send you for the Historical Socy. a curious copper coin or medal handed to me by Lieut. Netscher of the Dutch Army, who says he received it from a soldier by whom it was found somewhere in the neighborhood of this place. It is possible that the collections of the Society may contain other specimens of this relic of our revolutionary contest, but I venture to send it as the circumstance of its being found in this country would seem to indicate a distribution of the coinage in this quarter at the period of its issue. According to the best of my recollections of that portion of our history referred to, there was not much for the enemy to boast of in what then occurred. It would appear, therefore, that very slight advantages gained by

Summer, 2002

them were considered worthy of being turned to some account in this quarter, where the popular feeling was so decidedly in favor of our country.

The inscriptions on the medal are in Dutch, & as follows: on one side the words "de. Vlugtended Americaanen van Rohde Yland, Augt. 1778" (The flying or retreating Americans of Rhode Island, Augt. 1778.) The pictorial design represents an English fleet in the bay on the left, & troops running across the island towards a number of boats, on the opposite coast. On the obverse is seen a stately man of war, apparently at anchor, with the following inscription: "De Admiraals Flag van Admiraal Howe 1779".

Will you do me the favor [text missing] to the Society in the [text missing] Lieut. Netscher, a young intelligent Dutch officer, who has written in French an excellent sketch of the history of Brazil when under the dominion of Holland. The Brazilian Minister now at this Court has made arrangements to have printed a new edition of that work, a copy of which will be forwarded to the Historical Society.

With great regard
I remain very truly [?]
Geo. Folsom

Geo. H. Moore, Esq.
Librarian N. Y. Hist. Socy.

The Rhode Island Ship token Folsom sent to Moore can no longer be located.

Folsom's suggestion that the tokens were made to gain some advantage for the British in the Netherlands tallies with my suspicion that they were made as propaganda pieces. They clearly depict a British victory, one that came at a time when, as Folsom points out, the British had little to crow about. As it seems certain from their fabric that the tokens were made in England in 1780, from their types that they proclaim a British victory over the Americans, and from their inscriptions that they were meant to be read by a Dutch

one, 5 Feb 1853.

Dear Sir,

Send you for the Historical Soc'y) a curious copper coin or medal handed me by direct: Mr. Stetson, of the British Army, who says he received it from a soldier by whom it was found somewhere in the neighbourhood of this place. It is possible that the collections of the Society may contain other specimens of this relic of our revolutionary contest, but I venture to send it as the circumstances of its being found in this country would seem to indicate a distribution of the coinage in this quarter at the period of its issue. According to the best of my recollection of that portion of our history referred to, there was not much for the enemy to boast of in what had occurred. It would appear, therefore, that very slight advantages gained by them were considered worthy of being turned to some account in this quarter where the popular feeling was so decidedly in favor of our country.

The inscriptions on the medal are in Dutch, & as follows: on one side the motto, "de vliegende Amerikanen van Rhode Island, Augt. 1778." (The flying or retreating Americans of Rhode Island, Augt. 1778.) The pictorial design represents an English fleet in the bay on the left, & troops running across the island towards a number of boats on the opposite coast. On the obverse is seen a stately man of war, apparently at anchor, with the following inscription: "de Admirals Flag van Admiraal Howe 1779."

Will you do me the favor to this...
to the Society - it was, dient. Netscher,
a young intelligent Dutch officer, who
has written a good & excellent sketch
of the history of Brazil when under the
dominion of Holland. A Brazilian
Minister now at this Court has made
arrangements to have printed a new
edition of that work, a copy of which will
be forwarded to the Historical Society.

With great respect.

Yours very truly, George
E. Folsom.

Geo. H. Mooreby
Rhodian Hist. Socy.

speaking audience, it seems to me equally certain that we can agree with Mr. Folsom's century and a half old opinion, that the Rhode Island Ship token was an unsuccessful British propaganda piece made for the Netherlands market in 1780.



Dr. James Mease and Old American Coins

By: Brian J. Danforth, Ph.D.

In conducting research on coppers pertaining to the American colonial era, I came across an interesting 1838 reference to coins in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Dr. James Mease of Philadelphia, who was an early nineteenth century writer on American medals, gave the following account:

"some American coins issued before the establishment of the present government...

No. 1. This coin is larger than a half cent. One side it has thirteen ribs or bars which run parallel to, and are equi-distant (sic) from each other. On the other side are the letters U. S. A. the S. being of larger size, running across the other two letters. It has no date nor any other inscription.

No. 2. On one side a head surrounded by 'Georgius. Dei. Gratia. Rex.' On the other side is a rose and the following inscription...Rosa. Americana. Utile. Dulci. 1722.

No. 3. On one side a chain of *thirteen* circular links running around the face of the coin. In the centre (sic) a circle, having upon it the words 'We are one,' and around these words, 'United States.' On the other side there is a sun at meridian height, looking down upon a dial, beneath which appear these words, 'Mind your business.' The word '*Fugio*,' and the date 1787 also appear on the same side of the coin.

No. 4. On one side the American Eagle, having on its breast a shield, with the word Cent upon it. Around the face of the Coin is 'Massachusetts 1788.' On the other side is an Indian at full length with his bow and arrow, and the word COMMONWEALTH.

No. 5. On one side a sheaf of wheat, and the words 'PEACE AND PLENTY;' on the other, a full length portrait of Fame blowing her trumpet, and these words 'FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE

PUBLIC.' There is a date upon it, but the third figure is so badly done, as to leave a doubt whether it is 1784, or some earlier period.

No. 6. On one side a Sun, with *thirteen* stars around it, and the words 'NOVA CONSTELLATIO;' on the other, the letters U. S. surrounded by a vignette, and the words 'LIBERTAS ET JUSTITIA 1785.'

No. 7. Is the Jersey Half-penny, having on one side a shield, surrounded by the words 'E. PLURIBUS UNUM;' on the other a Horse's head and a plough, with the words 'NOVA CAESAREA...

No. 8. On one side a head and the word 'AUCTORI CONNEC,' on the other a female figure very much in the form of a gingerbread child, holding what may be an olive branch in one hand...with the date below it of 1787...

No. 9. Has on one side a head, and the words 'Georgius III Rex.' On the opposite side is a shield cut into quarters, containing respectively the coats of arms of England, Scotland, Ireland and Virginia, surmounted with a crown, and surrounded with 'Virginia, 1773'...."

This 1838 reference by Mease is interesting because it presents a historical view of American colonial coins in circulation as seen from the perspective of a numismatist old enough to remember the closing years of that era. Further, this account offers additional information to Sylvester S. Crosby's listing of coppers circulating in New York in 1787. Crosby, reiterating a Committee Report of the New York State Legislature, stated that circulating coppers within New York were as follows:

First. A few genuine British George II halfpence along with some of earlier reigns;

Second. A number of Irish halfpence with a bust on the one side and a harp on the other;

Third. A very great number in imitation of British halfpence, which were much lighter than regal issues and made of inferior copper, as well as being badly executed; and

Fourth. A very considerable number of New Jersey coppers that had recently been introduced into circulation with many below the proper weight.

Mease's account on the type of coppers circulating in colonial America is singularly interesting because of the added information that he offered at a time when collecting American coins was at best in its infancy. In particular are the following descriptions:

- (a) the Rosa Americana coins were classified as possibly "a coin of one of the Old Thirteen Colonies," underlining his belief that this was an indigenous series rather than an import;
- (b) the Connecticut coins were categorized as "the old farthing of our boyhood" denoting that while these coppers continued in circulation into the nineteenth century they did so at a reduced value; and
- (c) his coin No. 5, which is an unusual coin to be referenced as having an American association, has been identified by one C4 member as a token from Cork, Ireland, rather than the more typical Birmingham token.

As can be derived from the 1787 Report from the New York State Legislature, Irish coppers were commonly used in colonial America. But, the use of Irish tokens is little understood in spite of the documented circulation of Wood's Money--Hibernia series--and St. Patrick coinage.

Mease's comments as they pertain to the Rosa Americana series provide an important insight into the use of these coppers prior to the establishment of the United States Mint. Here, Mease's statement that these coins may have been produced by one of the colonies was based on a story that had appeared in a Charleston, South Carolina newspaper, stating:

"Curious Coin.- The workmen in preparing the foundation of St. Phillips Church, have found a Coin, the age of which is now 113

Summer, 2002

years, with the head of George the First. The inscription around which is...Rosa, Americana, 1722, Utile Dulci. It probably is a coin of one of the Old Thirteen Colonies.

Another of these coins was found in April, 1835, in digging a garden in Washington; Pensis, bordering on Brook County, Virginia."

Recovered Rosa Americana coins are commonly associated with sites in the northern colonies. I have personally documented several such coins, having been found in Connecticut, upstate New York and western Massachusetts. These examples were on display at last year's C4 Convention as part of an educational exhibit on recovered colonial coins. What is not commonly known is the degree to which Rosa Americana coppers circulated in the south. Recent research (See: Thomas A. Kays, "When Cross Pistareens Cut Their Way Through the Tobacco Colonies" The Colonial Newsletter (April, 2001). pp. 2169-2199), points out the use by southerners of cut Spanish silver coins to make small change. The discovery of the wreck HMS *Feversham* underscores the use of fractional silver pieces, being both Spanish and Massachusetts, for small change. (See: Robert Martin and Angel Pietri, "The Story of the HMS Feversham, and Massachusetts Cut Silver Use in the Colonies" C4 Newsletter (Fall, 2001), pp. 11-31; and Brian J. Danforth, "Letter to the Editor" C4 Newsletter (Winter, 2001), pp. 12-14) The St. Phillip's site referenced herein reveals the possible limited use of Rosa Americana coins in the South, which is a concept not generally considered. Here, the reconstruction of a church that burnt in 1835, being the oldest congregation in South Carolina, resulted in unearthing a Rosa Americana copper whose denomination was unfortunately not listed.

Mease's misstatement on the origin of the Rosa Americana series as being "one of the Old Thirteen Colonies" illustrates the limited knowledge that early numismatists had in regard to these coppers. Several years later, when Montrovile W. Dickeson wrote one of the earliest numismatic histories on colonial money, he was able to properly attribute the coinage to William Wood's 1722 royal Patent.

However, Dickeson listed the denominations as farthings, halfpence and pence. He qualified his opinion as follows:

“Owing to the limited number of specimens of these coins which have been preserved in our cabinets, or are known and accessible, we can give such information as an examination of them discloses...as we have no precedent or other means for deciding...and hope that more light may be thrown upon this interesting coin by others.”

A firmer understanding of the Rosa Americana series finally appeared with the publication of Crosby's work in 1875. Here, the origin of these coppers along with their proper denomination was presented, denoting that these coins were made in England and intended for utterance in the American Plantations, which would have included the thirteen northern colonies along with British possessions in the West Indies. To-date, however, the circulation patterns for these coins is not fully understood. Nor do numismatists have a clear understanding of the level of acceptance or rejection of these coins by colonists. What is starting to be documented are instances of their recovery at early American sites, which over time shall contribute to a fuller interpretive analysis. In the meantime, nineteenth century descriptions of the Rosa Americana series as depicted by Mease and Dickeson shall continue to underscore the prevailing contention that these coppers had limited circulation in the American colonies. Numismatists have reinforced this contention by referencing the actions of Governor Arthur Dobbs of North Carolina who in 1753 proposed to English authorities the coining of farthings, halfpence and twopence made of copper, thereby underscoring the lack of coppers in the lower South for daily transactions. Yet, little is actually known of the history of the first attempt by English authorities to meet the needs of the Common Man for small change in his daily transactions. In this context, Mease's account is of historical interest.

Currently, numismatists are at the beginning of a new understanding of coins produced by William Wood. Toward this end, an inventory of recovered Wood's Money--his Hibernia series--is assisting us in understanding the distribution pattern of those coins that arrived in

Summer, 2002

large quantities in the 1730's in the mid-Atlantic colonies. Information of this nature as to recovered Rosa Americana coins would enhance our understanding as to their circulation. Thus, if any reader has documentation and / or other information pertaining to the denomination, year, location--town and state--and site description--house, tavern, ferry landing, etc.--of recovered Rosa Americana coinage, I would appreciate receiving such information at: E-mail: brianinalbany@aol.com

References:

1. "Old American Coins" Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society (Boston, 1838), xxvii,282-283.
2. Sylvester S. Crosby, The Early Coins of America; and the Laws Governing Their Issue (reprint: New York, 1983), pp. 143, 290-291.
3. Montrovile W. Dickeson, The American Numismatic Manual of the Currency or Money of the Aborigines, and Colonial, State, and United States Coins (Philadelphia, 1865), pp. 75-78.



The Vermont Ryder 25- The Final State

By Roy Bonjour

The Vermont Ryder 25 (combination of Obverse 16 and Reverse U.), last state, has been seen by very few people and is considered to be rare. When Kenneth Bressett wrote his landmark essay "Vermont Copper Coinage" he was the first to identify this coin. If you are not familiar with the Bressett essay, you should read it along with the excellent book "The Copper Coins of Vermont" by Tony Carlotto. At the time Ken wrote his essay he estimated there were 2-3 known pieces. In recent communications, (May 2002), he felt that there was less than 6 known.

I purchased my Ryder 25 at a 1979 auction by Coin Galleries. It was described as "a much later strike from Machins Mills, on a smaller flan, with advanced obverse and reverse die breaks, and dies





Taylor Collection Lot 2087
R29- U reverse

misaligned 45 degrees. Very good and quite rare." (Years later I lent my collection to Mike Hodder for study and he measured it at 25.2mm vertically and 100.7g.) Shortly after buying the coin, I sent it to Ken for analysis. He said it was the best one of the coins he had seen and in an earlier state.

A few months ago I read Tony's book and noticed that he did not have a picture of this coin, so I emailed him one and then decided to publish it in the Newsletter. The story, however does not end here. Years ago at the Taylor auction, I saw a coin that made me sit up and take notice. Lot 2087 was a Ryder 29 with a U reverse very similar to mine, only more deterioration. I told Ken about the Taylor coin and we then compared thoughts and reached the same hypothesis. When the dies arrived at Newburgh (Machins Mills), they were used in a haphazard manner and U was probably used in the following order:

16-U This would be my coin, where the shattering was quite evident.
22-U The Taylor coin, Ryder 29, lot 2087. See above.

16-U The shattering and deterioration Ken saw was further advanced than mine and the Taylor coin.

22-U The final stage of U. (See Carlotto. p161 for a picture)

There could be other unions of these dies and as Ken frequently says: "There may have been other combination of dies that we know nothing about." So if you should see one of those cruddy Vermont coins, don't push it aside, give it another look. The one thing that we do know is that the production/survival rate was very limited.

Roy Bonjour



Unclassified Ads

Ed Sarrafian

[REDACTED]

For sale: Spanish Colonials

1718 Spain 1 Real(1/2 pistareen) XF \$100.00

1738 Spain 1 Real(1/2 pistareen) XF \$100.00

1740 Spain 1 Real(1/2 pistareen) XF \$100.00

1733 Spain ½ Real (1/4 pistareen) VF \$50.00

1751 Spain 1 Real(1/2 pistareen) VF+ \$65.00

Have others, please inquire.



Collector Selling Duplicates: E Mail or write if interested.

All have excellent "eye" appeal and good planchets

1787 Conn. Mi. 41-ii DBL AUCTOPI obv., ET IIB rev. VF weak date, 1788 Mass. Ry. 1-D One Cent VF-30 "very nice",

1787 Verm. Ry. 14 MBR F "nice"

1788 Verm. Ry. 25 MBR VF uniformly porous but not distracting

1776 Jan 1 issue Delaware 10s currency AU-UNC (some would call it UNC)

Summer, 2002

I will consider trades

LEO SHANE

E Mail: Leo.J.Shane@honeywell.com

WANTING TO PURCHASE: Low grade colonial coinage, colonial duplicates and currency, pin notes, sewn together pieces or other era related paper items of interest. Please write me with information on your items for sale. Thank you.

Send to: Walter Deleu- C4

Desperately Wanted:

Choice Mint State Red Book Type Colonials! Getz Silver & Copper Washington Pieces, Silver Myddelton Tokens (with/without box), Gem Mint state Pillar dollars, Rarity-7 and Rarity-8 Connecticut's. Also: all early (pre 1835) US gold- especially rare dates and die varieties.

Contact Dave Wnuck at:
Coin Rarities of New England
PMB 356, 994 No. Colony Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Fax #203-271-2476; New Web site: www.earlycoins.com

Call toll free any time: 800-COINS-99

"VARIETY CHECKLIST AND RARITY RATINGS FOR AMERICAN COLONIAL ISSUES AND STATE COINAGES" 23 pages covering those issues most commonly collected by variety; loose-leaf format for convenience.

Revised quantities for rarity 1,2 and 3. Corrections to the rarity ratings (yes, there will be some) will be announced in the C4 Newsletter over the years. This is a long term, evolving project.

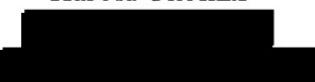
Price: \$15.00, which includes postage. Available from:

Tom Madigan



Wanted: Back copies of the C4 Newsletter. Also wanted are back issues of Coin World, Numismatic News, and any other periodical covering US numismatics.

Contact: Harold Thomas



I desire to correspond with anyone who has an interest in the tokens, medals, dies, craftsmanship, biographies, and other aspects of Boston engraver Joseph H. Merriam and Springfield engraver James A. Bolen. Also, I would like to purchase and would pay full retail price for any Bolen colonial copies of different metals and mulings that I do not presently have. Correspondence is invited.

David Bowers



Barry Tayman and I, under a grant from the ANS, are working on a monograph on Canadian Blacksmith tokens. We are seeking information from collectors, especially about the rarer pieces. I can be contacted at my home address or through my web site.

Summer, 2002

George Fuld, Sc.D.

Fuldl@home.com



Imitation halfpence coppers (Redbook group I, II and III) in VF to EF condition. All dates wanted.

Please call Min at [REDACTED], or E-mail at Unifilis @aol.com

Wanted, cull to mid-grade:

Virginia halfpennies

Colonial and Continental currency

Also wanted: biographical information on the lesser known signers of Continental and colonial currency. Will pay for referenced information I don't have.

David Consolvo

historiccoins@firstva.com

I am currently researching Massachusetts Bay Colony silver coinage. Any information or new thoughts which are not addressed in the basics (Noe, Crosby, Breen, Durst, etc,) would be appreciated. Intermediary die states, contemporary counterfeits, high quality fabrications, witch pieces, etc. Correspondence desired. Also buying low grade, clipped, holed, mutilated, witch pieces. Thank you.

Geoffrey Stevens



Pattinbpt@.mediaone.net



Visit my new web site www.USColonials.com. I will post and describe for free any COLONIAL over \$199-see the web site for the sellers' terms for full details. Contact Mike@USColonials.com or at [REDACTED]. Michael Wierzba



Collector wishes to purchase for top dollar: 1793 Liberty Cap cent, AG to F; Immune(Immunis) Columbia; Chalmers shilling; Auctori Plebis; Oak Tree Shilling; Rhode Island Ship Medal; Pitt token. These coins will be cherished. Thank you. Frank Vivalo-[REDACTED]



Richard August, [REDACTED]

For Sale: Oak Tree Sixpence, Noe 20, F-VF \$3,100; Pine Tree shilling, Noe 17, VF \$2,700; Good Samaritan shilling, silver UNC \$2,200; Mass. 1787 cent 2bE, VF \$650, 4D F-VF \$175; 1788 half cent, 1B F-VF \$235; NJ 11H F \$3,800, 16J VF \$2,500, 17J VF-XF \$1,600, 56n AXF \$750; 85 Conn. 6.3g.1 VF-XF \$500, 87 4L VF-XF \$550, 25b F \$135, 33.27r.4 XF \$2,400, 33.36T.2 F-VF \$110, 88 12.1F.1 VF-XF \$900. Vermont R2 AXF full \$7,00, R9 F-VF \$875, R14 VF-XF \$850, R22 late die VF \$850. Machin's 3-71B F-VF \$575, 8-74A VF \$850, 12-78B VF-XF \$1,600, 17-87B VF-XF \$475. Fugio 3D F-VF \$475, 9P XF \$775, 10T VF-XF \$2,300, 12S VF \$1,300, 13X UNC \$2,200, 18U AXF \$475. French 1690 5 sol XF \$2,850, 1712D 30 sol XF \$350, 1713AA 15 sol XF \$750, 1720 A 20 sol XF \$500.

Summer, 2002

From EAC in Las Vegas



John Kraljevich, Bijan Anvar, Clem Schettino,
Eric Cheung and Dave Wnuck



Bijan Anvar, Jim Goudgen and Don Valenziano

From EAC in Las Vegas



Eric Chung at Dave Wnuck's table



Tony Terranova



Tom Rinaldo

EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY AUCTIONS, INC.

BIMONTHLY AUCTIONS OF AUTOGRAPHS • COINS • CURRENCY • AMERICANA

HUNDREDS OF COLONIAL COIN, CURRENCY & MEDAL LOTS IN EVERY SALE

ALL ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE 24/7 FOR ONLINE VIEWING:

WWW.EARLYAMERICAN.COM



This Bill of Four Shillings and Six
Pence Indented Due from the Colony of Rhode
Island and Providence Plantations in New
England to the Holder thereof Shall be in
Value equal to Money and Shall be accordingly
Accepted by the Treasurer and Receivers Sub
ordinate to him in all Publick Payments
for any Stock at any time in the Treasury
Newport July the fifth 1715 by Order
of the General Assembly



SUBSCRIBE FOR \$36 TO RECEIVE SIX ISSUES FOR ONE FULL YEAR OF ILLUSTRATED CATALOGS

AUTOGRAPHS • COINS • CURRENCY • AMERICANA • MAPS

EARLY AMERICAN • P.O. Box 3341 • LA JOLLA, CA 92038
(858) 459-4159 OR FAX (858) 459-4373 • AUCTIONS@EARLYAMERICAN.COM



Since 1935, the name **Stack's** has been linked to building great collections of colonial coins. Today's collectors take pride in owning colonials pedigreed to such great collections as Oechsner, Hessberg, Groves, Park, Robison, Eliasberg, Spiro, and Picker, to name just a few. We helped build each one of them. **Stack's** can help you build your own collection of colonials, be they coins or medals.

We maintain a comprehensive stock of colonial coins and medals. Need a type, or a particular variety? Call our retail sales department, **Stack's** can help you find what you're looking for. We can help you upgrade, we'll even take your duplicate in trade towards the price of your new purchase.

Thinking of selling your coins? We're always interested in buying colonials. Thinking about an auction for your coins? **Stack's** has conducted more auctions of colonials than all our competitors, combined, ever have. Just give us a call, we'll be glad to help with your plans.

Stack's has the expertise in colonials. **Stack's** research library is the best in the coin business. **Stack's** clientele is the finest in the hobby. We're here to help. Just put us to the test.

Send for a free color booklet about our firm and its history in American numismatics.

Look for us on the World Wide Web at [HTTP://WWW.STACKS.COM](http://WWW.STACKS.COM)



Stack's[®]



123 WEST 57th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019-2280
 Telephone (212) 582-2580
 FAX (212) 245-5018 or (212) 582-1946

*Official Auctioneer for ANA's "World's Fair of Money"
in New York City July 31- August 4, 2002*

SUPERIOR GALLERIES

SINCE 1929



Superior Galleries and McCawley-Grellman would like you to think of us when you decide to market your collection. Since 1929 Superior Galleries has helped collectors with their numismatic needs both small and large.

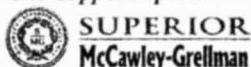
Over the years we have handled incredible colonial collections, satisfying consignors with the results and delighting collectors that were able to add wonderful pieces to their collections.

Superior and McCawley-Grellman understand that when it comes time to consign your collection, a part of yourself goes with the coins. Our customer service is unsurpassed in the industry. Our collector base is the best you could hope for.

Let us work for you!

Call Chris McCawley (405) 341-2213 or our President, Steve Deeds, (800) 421-0754 x230 to discuss consigning your coins. We have regularly scheduled sales throughout the year.

The Copper Experts™



SUPERIOR GALLERIES BEVERLY HILLS

A Subsidiary of Tangible Assets Galleries, Inc., a publicly traded company.
9478 W. Olympic Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212-4246 (800) 421-0754



www.superiorgalleries.com